

The Division issues certificates to teachers in the public, nonpublic, and independent schools and various other institutions of the state. It has the responsibility for the initial certification, renewal, and upgrading of certificates for educational personnel at all levels from kindergarten through grade 12. In addition, the Division interprets certification standards and administers interstate reciprocity in certification of teachers. The Division also provides an advisory and consultative service on school staffing.

The Division evaluates teacher education programs offered by the colleges and universities in the State and provides consultative services for the improvement of such programs.

The Division interprets and implements State statute and State Board of Education bylaws relating to the approval of all levels of nonpublic education from nursery school through secondary school. Certificates of approval are issued to approved schools.

The Division administers the testing program that leads to the attainment of the Maryland High School Diploma. The Division processes applications, arranges for test sites, test administration, scoring, reports of test results, and issuance of diplomas to successful candidates.

DIVISION OF COMPENSATORY, URBAN, AND SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS

The Division of Compensatory, Urban, and Supplementary Programs is responsible for the administration and supervision of federal and State programs concerned with improving the educational development of economically and socially deprived children. The primary function of the Division is to coordinate the State leadership and administrative responsibilities of these programs so as to provide maximum support and supplementary services to the local school systems of the State of Maryland.

The array of federal educational programs necessitates coordination at the State Department level to ensure that these supplementary services may achieve the purposes of the legislation and benefit to the greatest degree the school children of Maryland.

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION

The Division of Instruction is responsible for the development and recommendation to the

State Superintendent of policy guidelines for programs and services in elementary and secondary schools; to include curriculum and adult continuing education in all public schools and State agency educational programs; to conduct evaluation of education programs to include the accountability program; to insure the implementation of such policies, guidelines, programs, and services through staff development, program audits, and supervision; to conduct conferences of personnel of the county school systems on matters relating to content, needs, and improvements of schools; to prepare and publish pamphlets to stimulate public interest, promote the work of education, and foster professional insight and efficiency in teachers; and to work cooperatively with the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in developing public standards and guidelines for school health programs.

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TELEVISION

The Division of Instructional Television is responsible for providing appropriate innovative and timely instruction, via television and media services, that will contribute to the achievement of public education priorities in Maryland.

The Division works with the local education agencies (LEAs), State Instructional Television Regional Advisory Boards, State ITV Curriculum Committees, ITV coordinators, divisions within the State Department of Education, and the State public broadcasting agency to serve State education priorities.

DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES

The Division of Library Development and Services is responsible for the administration, direction, and budgetary development of State and federal programs for improving library services in the public schools and public libraries throughout the State. This includes: identification of needs; planning and development of recommendations for library legislation; monitoring and evaluation of ongoing programs; and dissemination of information. Also among the Division's responsibilities is the coordination of the State Library Network, the center of which is the Enoch Pratt Library. Three Regional Resource Centers include the State Library Resource Center, the McKeldin Library of the University of Maryland, and the Eisenhower Library of Johns Hopkins University.